

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A method for providing an investment structure, comprising:

receiving funds to be invested;

investing a first portion of the funds in a fixed component generating principal plus fixed interest, wherein the investing the first portion step includes investing sixty to ninety percent of the funds in the fixed component;

investing a second portion of the funds in a contingent component generating contingent interest, wherein the investing the second portion step includes investing ten to forty percent of the funds in the contingent component;

re-investing at least a portion of the fixed interest in the fixed component; and

re-investing at least a portion of the contingent interest in the contingent component;

determining, via a computer system, when to end an investment period based on parameters that include a percentage distribution of the funds between the fixed component and the contingent component; and

distributing all of the fixed component, the contingent component, the fixed interest, and the contingent interest when the investment period has ended.

Claim 2 (original): The method of claim 1, further including using a trustee for investing the fixed component and using a partnership for investing the contingent component.

Claim 3 (cancelled).

Claim 4 (original): The method of claim 1 wherein the investing the first portion step includes investing the fixed component in one or more of the following: treasury notes, AAA-rated securities, AA-rated securities, municipal bond notes, or variable rate notes.

Claim 5 (original): The method of claim 1 wherein the investing the second portion step includes investing the contingent component in one or more of the following: futures, options, or forward positions.

Claim 6 (previously presented): The method of claim 1, further including distributing the fixed component, the contingent component, the fixed interest, and the contingent interest after an investment period of seven years.

Claim 7 (withdrawn): A method for providing an investment structure, comprising:
receiving funds to be invested;
investing a first portion of the funds in a fixed component generating principal plus fixed interest;
investing a second portion of the funds in a contingent component generating contingent interest;
distributing at least a portion of the fixed interest; and
re-investing at least a portion of the contingent interest in the contingent component.

Claim 8 (withdrawn): The method of claim 7, further including using a trustee for investing the fixed component and using a partnership for investing the contingent component.

Claim 9 (withdrawn): The method of claim 7 wherein:
the investing the first portion step includes investing sixty to ninety percent of the funds in the fixed component; and
the investing the second portion step includes investing ten to forty percent of the funds in the contingent component.

Claim 10 (withdrawn): The method of claim 7 wherein the investing the first portion step includes investing the fixed component in one or more of the following: treasury notes, AAA-rated securities, AA-rated securities, municipal bond notes, or variable rate notes.

Claim 11 (withdrawn): The method of claim 7 wherein the investing the second portion step includes investing the contingent component in one or more of the following: futures, options, or forward positions.

Claim 12 (withdrawn): The method of claim 7, further including distributing the fixed component, the contingent component, and the contingent interest after an investment period.

Claim 13 (withdrawn): A method for providing an investment structure, comprising:

receiving funds to be invested; investing a first portion of the funds in a fixed component generating principal plus fixed interest;

investing a second portion of the funds in a contingent component generating contingent interest;

re-investing at least a portion of the fixed interest in the fixed component; and
distributing at least a portion of the contingent interest.

Claim 14 (withdrawn): The method of claim 13, further including using a trustee for investing the fixed component and using a partnership for investing the contingent component.

Claim 15 (withdrawn): The method of claim 13 wherein:

the investing the first portion step includes investing sixty to ninety percent of the funds in the fixed component; and

the investing the second portion step includes investing ten to forty percent of the funds in the contingent component.

Claim 16 (withdrawn): The method of claim 13 wherein the investing the first portion step includes investing the fixed component in one or more of the following: treasury notes, AAA-rated securities, AA-rated securities, municipal bond notes, or variable rate notes.

Claim 17 (withdrawn): The method of claim 13 wherein the investing the second portion step includes investing the contingent component in one or more of the following: futures; options, or forward positions.

Claim 18 (withdrawn): The method of claim 13, further including distributing the fixed component, the contingent component, and the fixed interest after an investment period.

Claim 19 (withdrawn): A method for providing an investment structure, comprising:

receiving a plurality of funds to be invested;

investing first portions of the plurality of funds in a pooled fixed component generating principal plus pooled fixed interest;

investing second portions of the plurality of funds in a pooled contingent component generating pooled contingent interest;

re-investing at least a portion of the pooled fixed interest in the pooled fixed component; and

re-investing at least a portion of the pooled contingent interest in the pooled contingent component.

Claim 20 (withdrawn): The method of claim 19, further including using a trustee for investing the pooled fixed component and using a partnership for investing the pooled contingent component.

Claim 21 (withdrawn): The method of claim 19 wherein:
the investing the first portions step includes investing sixty to ninety percent of each of the funds in the pooled fixed component; and
the investing the second portions step includes investing ten to forty percent of each of the funds in the pooled contingent component.

Claim 22 (withdrawn): The method of claim 19 wherein the investing the first portions step includes investing the pooled fixed component in one or more of the following: treasury notes, AAA-rated securities, AA-rated securities, municipal bond notes, or variable rate notes.

Claim 23 (withdrawn): The method of claim 19 wherein the investing the second portions step includes investing the pooled contingent component in one or more of the following: futures, options, or forward positions.

Claim 24 (withdrawn): The method of claim 19, further including distributing the pooled fixed component, the pooled contingent component, the pooled fixed interest, and the pooled contingent interest after an investment period.

Claim 25 (withdrawn): A method for providing an investment structure, comprising:
receiving a plurality of funds to be invested;
investing first portions of the plurality of funds in a pooled fixed component generating principal plus pooled fixed interest;
investing second portions of the plurality of funds in a pooled contingent component generating pooled contingent interest;
distributing at least a portion of the pooled fixed interest; and
re-investing at least a portion of the pooled contingent interest in the pooled contingent component.

Claim 26 (withdrawn): The method of claim 25, further including using a trustee for investing the pooled fixed component and using a partnership for investing the pooled contingent component.

Claim 27 (withdrawn): The method of claim 25 wherein:
the investing the first portions step includes investing sixty to ninety percent of each of the funds in the pooled fixed component; and
the investing the second portions step includes investing ten to forty percent of each of the funds in the pooled contingent component.

Claim 28 (withdrawn): The method of claim 25 wherein the investing the first portions step includes investing the pooled fixed component in one or more of the following: treasury notes, AAA-rated securities, AA-rated securities, municipal bond notes, or variable rate notes.

Claim 29 (withdrawn): The method of claim 25 wherein the investing the second portions step includes investing the pooled contingent component in one or more of the following: futures, options, or forward positions.

Claim 30 (withdrawn): The method of claim 25, further including distributing the pooled fixed component, the pooled contingent component, and the pooled contingent interest after an investment period.

Claim 31 (withdrawn): A method for providing an investment structure, comprising:
receiving a plurality of funds to be invested;
investing first portions of the plurality of funds in a pooled fixed component generating principal plus pooled fixed interest;
investing second portions of a first set of the plurality of funds in a pooled distribution contingent component generating first pooled contingent interest;
investing second portions of a second set of the plurality of funds in a pooled re-investment contingent component generating second pooled contingent interest;
distributing at least a portion of the pooled fixed interest;
distributing at least a portion of the first pooled contingent interest; and
re-investing at least a portion of the second pooled contingent interest in the pooled re-investment contingent component.

Claim 32 (withdrawn): The method of claim 31, further including using a trustee for investing the pooled fixed component and using a partnership for investing the pooled distribution contingent component and the pooled re-investment contingent component.

Claim 33 (withdrawn): The method of claim 31 wherein:
the investing the first portions step includes investing sixty to ninety percent of each of the funds in the pooled fixed component;
the investing the second portions of the first set step includes investing ten to forty percent of each of the first set of funds in the pooled distribution contingent component; and
the investing the second portions of the second set step includes investing ten to forty percent of each of the second set of funds in the pooled re-investment contingent component.

Claim 34 (withdrawn): The method of claim 31 wherein the investing the first portions step includes investing the pooled fixed component in one or more of the following: treasury notes, AAA-rated securities, AA-rated securities, municipal bond notes, or variable rate notes.

Claim 35 (withdrawn): The method of claim 31 wherein the investing the second portions steps include investing the pooled distribution contingent component and the pooled re-investment contingent component in one or more of the following: futures, options, or forward positions.

Claim 36 (withdrawn): The method of claim 31, further including distributing the pooled fixed component, the pooled contingent distribution component, the pooled re-investment contingent component, and the second pooled contingent interest after an investment period.

Claim 37 (withdrawn): A method for providing an investment structure, comprising:
receiving a plurality of funds to be invested;
investing first portions of the plurality of funds in a pooled fixed component generating principal plus pooled fixed interest;
investing second portions of a first set of the plurality of funds in a pooled distribution contingent component generating first pooled contingent interest;
investing second portions of a second set of the plurality of funds in a pooled re-investment contingent component generating second pooled contingent interest;

re-investing at least a portion of the pooled fixed interest in the pooled fixed component;

distributing at least a portion of the first pooled contingent interest; and

re-investing at least a portion of the second pooled contingent interest in the pooled re-investment contingent component.

Claim 38 (withdrawn): The method of claim 37, further including using a trustee for investing the pooled fixed component and using a partnership for investing the pooled distribution contingent component and the pooled re-investment contingent component.

Claim 39 (withdrawn): The method of claim 37 wherein:

the investing the first portions step includes investing sixty to ninety percent of each of the funds in the pooled fixed component;

the investing the second portions of the first set step includes investing ten to forty percent of each of the first set of funds in the pooled distribution contingent component; and

the investing the second portions of the second set step includes investing ten to forty percent of each of the second set of funds in the pooled re-investment contingent component.

Claim 40 (withdrawn): The method of claim 37 wherein the investing the first portions step includes investing the pooled fixed component in one or more of the following: treasury notes, AAA-rated securities, AA-rated securities, municipal bond notes, or variable rate notes.

Claim 41 (withdrawn): The method of claim 37 wherein the investing the second portions steps include investing the pooled distribution contingent component and the pooled re-investment contingent component in one or more of the following: futures, options, or forward positions.

Claim 42 (withdrawn): The method of claim 37, further including distributing the pooled fixed component, the pooled fixed interest, the pooled contingent distribution component, the pooled re-investment contingent component, and the second pooled contingent interest after an investment period.

Claim 43 (currently amended): A memory for storing data, comprising:
a data structure stored in the memory, the data structure including:

a fixed component investing a first portion of funds and generating principal plus fixed interest, wherein the fixed component invests sixty to ninety percent of the funds in the fixed component; and

a contingent component investing a second portion of the funds and generating contingent interest, wherein the contingent component invests ten to forty percent of the funds in the contingent component, and wherein at least a portion of the fixed interest is re-invested in the fixed component and at least a portion of the contingent interest is re-invested in the contingent component;

wherein the data structure determines when to end an investment period based on parameters that include a percentage distribution of the funds between the fixed component and the contingent component, and wherein all of the fixed component, the contingent component, the fixed interest, and the contingent interest are distributed when the investment period has ended.

Claim 44 (previously presented): The memory of claim 43 wherein a trustee invests the fixed component and a partnership invests the contingent component.

Claim 45 (cancelled).

Claim 46 (previously presented): The memory of claim 43 wherein the fixed component invests the first portion in one or more of the following: treasury notes, AAA-rated securities, AA-rated securities, municipal bond notes, or variable rate notes.

Claim 47 (previously presented): The memory of claim 43 wherein the contingent component invests the second portion in one or more of the following: futures, options, or forward positions.

Claim 48 (previously presented): The memory of claim 43 wherein the fixed component and the contingent component invest the first and second portions of the funds for an the investment period.

Claim 49 (withdrawn): An investment structure, comprising:

a fixed component investing a first portion of funds and generating principal plus fixed interest; and

a contingent component investing a second portion of the funds and generating contingent interest,

wherein at least a portion of the fixed interest is distributed and at least a portion of the contingent interest is re-invested in the contingent component.

Claim 50 (withdrawn): The investment structure of claim 49 wherein a trustee invests the fixed component and a partnership invests the contingent component.

Claim 51 (withdrawn): The investment structure of claim 49 wherein:
the fixed component invests sixty to ninety percent of the funds; and
the contingent component invests ten to forty percent of the funds.

Claim 52 (withdrawn): The investment structure of claim 49 wherein the fixed component invests the first portion in one or more of the following: treasury notes, AAA-rated securities, AA-rated securities, municipal bond notes, or variable rate notes.

Claim 53 (withdrawn): The investment structure of claim 49 wherein the contingent component invests the second portion in one or more of the following: futures, options, or forward positions.

Claim 54 (withdrawn): The investment structure of claim 49 wherein the fixed component and the contingent component invest the first and second portions of the funds for an investment period.

Claim 55 (withdrawn): An investment structure, comprising:
a fixed component investing a first portion of funds and generating principal plus fixed interest; and
a contingent component investing a second portion of the funds and generating contingent interest,
wherein at least a portion of the fixed interest is re-invested in the fixed component and at least a portion of the contingent interest is distributed.

Claim 56 (withdrawn): The investment structure of claim 55 wherein a trustee invests the fixed component and a partnership invests the contingent component.

Claim 57 (withdrawn): The investment structure of claim 55 wherein:
the fixed component invests sixty to ninety percent of the funds; and
the contingent component invests ten to forty percent of the funds.

Claim 58 (withdrawn): The investment structure of claim 55 wherein the fixed component invests the first portion in one or more of the following: treasury notes, AAA-rated securities, AA-rated securities, municipal bond notes, or variable rate notes.

Claim 59 (withdrawn): The investment structure of claim 55 wherein the contingent component invests the second portion in one or more of the following: futures, options, or forward positions.

Claim 60 (withdrawn): The investment structure of claim 55 wherein the fixed component and the contingent component invest the first and second portions of the funds for an investment period.

Claim 61 (withdrawn): An investment structure, comprising:
a pooled fixed component investing first portions of a plurality of funds and generating principal plus pooled fixed interest; and
a pooled contingent component investing second portions of the plurality of funds and generating pooled contingent interest,
wherein at least a portion of the pooled fixed interest is re-invested in the pooled fixed component and at least a portion of the pooled contingent interest is re-invested in the pooled contingent component.

Claim 62 (withdrawn): The investment structure of claim 61 wherein a trustee invests the pooled fixed component and a partnership invests the pooled contingent component.

Claim 63 (withdrawn): The investment structure of claim 61 wherein:
the pooled fixed component invests sixty to ninety percent of each of the funds; and
the pooled contingent component invests ten to forty percent of each of the funds.

Claim 64 (withdrawn): The investment structure of claim 61 wherein the pooled fixed component is invested in one or more of the following: treasury notes, AAA-rated securities, AA-rated securities, municipal bond notes, or variable rate notes.

Claim 65 (withdrawn): The investment structure of claim 61 wherein the pooled contingent component is invested in one or more of the following: futures, options, or forward positions.

Claim 66 (withdrawn): The investment structure of claim 61 wherein the pooled fixed component and the pooled contingent component invest the first and second portions of each of the funds for an investment period.

Claim 67 (withdrawn): An investment structure, comprising:
a pooled fixed component investing first portions of a plurality of funds and generating principal plus pooled fixed interest; and
a pooled contingent component investing second portions of the plurality of funds and generating pooled contingent interest,
wherein at least a portion of the pooled fixed interest is distributed and at least a portion of the pooled contingent interest is re-invested in the pooled contingent component.

Claim 68 (withdrawn): The investment structure of claim 67 wherein a trustee invests the pooled fixed component and a partnership invests the pooled contingent component.

Claim 69 (withdrawn): The investment structure of claim 67 wherein:
the pooled fixed component invests sixty to ninety percent of each of the funds; and
the pooled contingent component invests ten to forty percent of each of the funds.

Claim 70 (withdrawn): The investment structure of claim 67 wherein the pooled fixed component is invested in one or more of the following: treasury notes, AAA-rated securities, AA-rated securities, municipal bond notes, or variable rate notes.

Claim 71 (withdrawn): The investment structure of claim 67 wherein the pooled contingent component is invested in one or more of the following: futures, options, or forward positions.

Claim 72 (withdrawn): The investment structure of claim 67 wherein the pooled fixed component and the pooled contingent component invest the first and second portions of each of the funds for an investment period.

Claim 73 (withdrawn): An investment structure, comprising:
a pooled fixed component investing first portions of a plurality of funds and generating principal plus pooled fixed interest;
a pooled distribution contingent component investing second portions of a first set of the plurality of funds and generating first pooled contingent interest; and

a pooled re-investment contingent component investing second portions of a second set of the plurality of funds and generating second pooled contingent interest,

wherein at least a portion of the pooled fixed interest is distributed, at least a portion of the first pooled contingent interest is distributed, and at least a portion of the second pooled contingent interest is re-invested in the pooled re-investment contingent component.

Claim 74 (withdrawn): The investment structure of claim 73 wherein a trustee invests the pooled fixed component and a partnership invests the pooled distribution contingent component and the pooled re-investment contingent component.

Claim 75 (withdrawn): The investment structure of claim 73 wherein:

the pooled fixed component invests sixty to ninety percent of each of the funds;

the pooled distribution contingent component invests ten to forty percent of each of first set of the funds; and

the pooled re-investment contingent component invests ten to forty percent of each of second set of the funds.

Claim 76 (withdrawn): The investment structure of claim 73 wherein the pooled fixed component is invested in one or more of the following: treasury notes, AAA-rated securities, AA-rated securities, municipal bond notes, or variable rate notes.

Claim 77 (withdrawn): The investment structure of claim 73 wherein the pooled distribution contingent component and the pooled re-investment contingent component are invested in one or more of the following: futures, options, or forward positions.

Claim 78 (withdrawn): The investment structure of claim 73 wherein the pooled fixed component, the pooled distribution contingent component, and the pooled re-investment contingent component invest the first and second portions of each of the funds for an investment period.

Claim 79 (withdrawn): An investment structure, comprising:

a pooled fixed component investing first portions of a plurality of funds and generating principal plus pooled fixed interest;

a pooled distribution contingent component investing second portions of a first set of the plurality of funds and generating first pooled contingent interest; and

a pooled re-investment contingent component investing second portions of a second set of the plurality of funds and generating second pooled contingent interest,

wherein at least a portion of the pooled fixed interest is re-invested in the pooled fixed component, at least a portion of the first pooled contingent interest is distributed, and at least a portion of the second pooled contingent interest is re-invested in the pooled reinvestment contingent component.

Claim 80 (withdrawn): The investment structure of claim 79 wherein a trustee invests the pooled fixed component and a partnership invests the pooled distribution contingent component and the pooled re-investment contingent component.

Claim 81 (withdrawn): The investment structure of claim 79 wherein:

the pooled fixed component invests sixty to ninety percent of each of the funds;

the pooled distribution contingent component invests ten to forty percent of each of first set of the funds; and

the pooled re-investment contingent component invests ten to forty percent of each of second set of the funds.

Claim 82 (withdrawn): The investment structure of claim 79 wherein the pooled fixed component is invested in one or more of the following: treasury notes, AAA-rated securities, AA-rated securities, municipal bond notes, or variable rate notes.

Claim 83 (withdrawn): The investment structure of claim 79 wherein the pooled distribution contingent component and the pooled re-investment contingent component are invested in one or more of the following: futures, options, or forward positions.

Claim 84 (withdrawn): The investment structure of claim 79 wherein the pooled fixed component, the pooled distribution contingent component, and the pooled re-investment contingent component invest the first and second portions of each of the funds for an investment period.

Claim 85 (previously presented): The method of claim 1, wherein the method is a computerized method.

Claim 86 (currently amended): A computer readable medium providing instructions for providing an investment structure, the instructions comprising:

providing a fixed component, the fixed component investing a first portion of funds and generating principal plus fixed interest, wherein the fixed component invests sixty to ninety percent of the funds in the fixed component;

providing a contingent component, the contingent component investing a second portion of the funds and generating contingent interest, wherein the contingent component invests ten to forty percent of the funds in the contingent component, and wherein at least a portion of the fixed interest is re-invested in the fixed component and at least a portion of the contingent interest is re-invested in the contingent component;

determining, via a computer system, when to end an investment period based on parameters that include a percentage distribution of the funds between the fixed component and the contingent component; and

distributing all of the fixed component, the contingent component, the fixed interest, and the contingent interest when the investment period has ended.

Claim 87 (previously presented): The computer readable medium of claim 86, further including instructions for using a trustee for investing the fixed component and using a partnership for investing the contingent component.

Claim 88 (previously presented): The computer readable medium of claim 86, wherein the instructions for investing the first portion include instructions for investing the fixed component in one or more of the following: treasury notes, AAA-rated securities, AA-rated securities, municipal bond notes, or variable rate notes.

Claim 89 (previously presented): The computer readable medium of claim 86, wherein the instructions for investing the second portion include instructions for investing the contingent component in one or more of the following: futures, options, or forward positions.

Claim 90 (previously presented): The computer readable medium of claim 86, further including instructions for distributing the fixed component, the contingent component, the fixed interest, and the contingent interest after an investment period of seven years.

Claim 91 (previously presented): The method of claim 1, wherein the contingent component is a forward position.